

Rodney Smith
Domestic Policy Subcommittee
Oversight and Government Reform Committee
New Orleans, Louisiana
Monday, October 29, 2007

Katrina Clean Up

My name is Rodney Smith. Before Katrina, I was living in Memphis where I was born and raised. I was recruited to work in New Orleans through a friend who was working for a temporary service that was owned by Mike Noble. I came down around the first of November 2005. I came down in a friend's car following behind Noble.

When I got here, I worked for Fast Track Xpress which later became Xpress Staff. I worked "hopping" garbage trucks picking up garbage and debris. Fast Track Xpress was a subcontractor for Waste Management. I worked in the beginning on the West Bank.

The smell from the garbage trucks was always nasty. The work was dangerous because of the cars speeding around the trucks while we crossed the streets to pick up the garbage cans.

I worked 40-50 hours a week - six days a week. Sometimes I worked from 5:00 in the morning to 10:00 at night. A lot of times when we'd finished up our route, we had to keep going and pick up another route that hadn't been done.

My paychecks should have been about \$500 a week not including overtime, but I usually got around \$300 a week. I didn't understand

how I would get different amounts of pay when my pay stubs said I had worked the same number of hours. That happened a lot.

My checks never added up. And, I had to pay \$60-\$100 a week in rent plus \$25 a week for transportation to and from the job in the company van. Mike Noble always promised to make adjustments in our pay, but when we'd come back a few days later, he'd say there was still another problem that had to be worked out. And things would never get worked out.

I didn't know I could go to the federal government to get the money I should have been paid. I didn't think there was any way to get my money back.

Rodney Smith
1113 Clyde's Bank
Harvey, LA 70058
(504-287-8737)

RODNEY SMITH

47.89 HRS / 6 DAYS
CLYDES BANK

3/24/2006

114.68
-70.00

FTSI-173191040

WM W/E 3/13-19/06 NOLA

FTSI

RODNEY SMITH

3/3/2006

1626

241.64
-70.00

FTSI-173191040

WM W/E 02/20-26/06

174.64

FTSI

RODNEY SMITH

46.63 HRS / 5 DAYS
CLYDES BANK

5/5/2006

22985

468.60
-77.00

FTSI-173191040

WM W/E 4-24-06 / 4-30-06 NOLA

391.60

FTSI

RODNEY SMITH

45.73 HOURS 6 DAYS WORKED
CLYDES BANK
EXTRA FOR SHORT PAY FOR SHOP

3/17/2006

388.76
-70.00
11.88

SI-173191040

WM NOLA WE 3/6-3/12-06 45.73 HOURS

330.64

TSI

RODNEY SMITH

47.47 HRS/6 DAY
CLYDES BANK

4/21/2006

19505

566.31
-70.00

FTSI-173191040

WM NOLA WE 4/10-4/16/06

496.31

TSI

RODNEY SMITH

57.72 HRS 7 DAYS
CLYDES BANK

3/31/2006

18206

532.64
-70.00

FTSI-173191040

WM N/E 3/20-26/06 NOLA

462.64

RODNEY SMITH

5407 1182
CLYDES BANK

4/11/2006

593.31
-70.00

173131040

4/3/06 - 4/09/06 NOLA

FTSI

1520

Rodney Smith

3-11-06

\$320.00

w/E 3-5-06 com.
40hr. Shop